

Workingmen's Houses,
Mary Brennan House
367 South Locust Street
Dubuque
Dubuque County
Iowa

HABS No. IA-159-L

*HABS
IOWA,
31-DUBU,
14-L-*

**PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA**

Historic American Buildings Survey
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
P.O. Box 25287
Denver Colorado 80225

Workingmen's Houses,

Mary Brennan House

HABS No. IA-159-L

HABS,
IOWA,
31 - DUBU,
14 - L -

Site Location: 367 South Locust Street
Dubuque, Dubuque County, Iowa
DOT designation: Resource Site No. 2.4
Cadastral grid : SE1/4 SE1/4 S25 T89N R2E
USGS quadrangle: Dubuque South Iowa 7.5'
UTM coordinates: 15.691960.4706260
Lot dimensions : 46'x 100': .11 acre
Lot description: South 10' of Lot 7, Lot 8
and Lot 1 of Lot 9 of Levi's
Addition

Present Owner: Iowa Department of Transportation
Present Usage: vacant
Present Condition : fair

Overall Dimensions: 1-1/2-story main block: 22'6"x 14'6"; rear additions:
16'6"x 6', 10'6"x 6'6"; front porch: 8'x 3'.

Orientation : east

Architectural

Description :

Plan type : rectangular with rear addition and half wing
on north side.

Foundation: limestone rubble perimeter walls.

Structure : wood frame

Ext. walls: metal siding installed over beveled wood siding
Roofs : asphalt shingled, moderately pitched side gable
over main section; shallowly pitched, asphalt-
shingled shed roofs over front porch and rear
additions.

Chimneys : one exterior brick chimney offset on front
slope, north end gable.

Dormers : none

Windows : 1/1 double-hung sash on first story, front; 2/2
double-hung on second story, front; 6/6 sills,
recently added ornamental shutters on front.

Openings : paneled, single-leaf front door centered on
east wall, beneath porch.

Porches : centrally placed one-story porch with shed roof
over primary entrance; two plain square columns
support the simply framed roof; railing for
porch and side steps is recently installed
wrought iron; wood latticework in front of
crawl space.

Details : boxed cornices.

Construction Date : c.1874

Architecture Style: Side gabled box

Physical History : Mary Brennan purchased Lot 8 and a portion of Lot 7 from Dubuque real estate developer Alexander Levi in April 1874, less than a year after Levi had platted his residential subdivision along Southern Avenue (now South Locust Street). Evidence suggests that she probably constructed this 1-1/2-story frame house on the property soon thereafter. Brennan occupied the property until selling it in 1888 to William J. Dolan. Over the next twenty years the house changed hands several times in a series of tax sales. Walter and Catherine Meyers bought it in 1914 and lived here for some thirty years. The property has recently been acquired by the Iowa Department of Transportation for demolition. Although the exterior materials of the building have been obscured by installation of modern siding and roofing, the house retains its overall massing and fenestration.

Significance: Though altered moderately, the Mary Brennan House is a representative example of the workingmen's dwellings built along Southern Avenue in the late 19th Century.

References: Dubuque City Directories: 1857 - 1970.
Sanborn Insurance Maps: 1891, 1972.
Dubuque County Assessment Record: 3-24-2-20.
Iowa Department of Transportation, "Draft Environmental
Impact Statement - Cultural Resources Assessment."
Land Title Abstract (located at Iowa Department of
Transportation, Ames Iowa).

Compiler: Clayton B. Fraser, Fraserdesign, Loveland Colorado.
August 1988.